

## Message Text

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56

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 /087 W  
----- 096880

R 130035Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1432

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SUVA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OCON, SPC, XP

SUBJ: SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

FROM HAROLD NELSON

1. THE MEETING OF THE "REVIEW COMMITTEE" ESTABLISHED BY THE 15TH SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE WAS HELD ON NAURU FROM MAY 3-6, 1976. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MEETING WAS TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE ROLE OF THE SPC IN VIEW OF THE MANY CHANGES IN THE STATUS OF NATIONS IN THE PACIFIC SINCE 1947.

2. TWO MAJOR POINTS OF INTEREST TO THE USG EMERGED FROM THE MEETING - THE DESIRE OF THE ISLAND STATES AND TERRITORIES TO RETAIN THE SPC AS THEIR COMMON FORUM AND AS AN AID DONOR AND THE CHANGING ATTITUDE OF FRANCE AND NEW ZEALAND TOWARD THE SPC. THE ISLAND MEMBERS, LED BY AMERICAN SAMOA, THE COOK ISLANDS AND THE NEW HERBRIDES, WERE ALMOST UNANIMOUS IN THEIR FEELING THAT THE SPC SERVES A UNIQUE PURPOSE IN THE PACIFIC. PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND NIUE WERE THE ONLY VOCAL DISSENTERS FROM THE  
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VIEW THAT THE SPC SHOULD BE RETAINED AS AN AID DONOR AND AS

A REGIONAL ORGANIZATION.

3. NEW ZEALAND'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SPC HAS CHANGED WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IN WELLINGTON. THE CURRENT NEW ZEALAND POSITION IS THAT THERE WILL BE LESS EMPHASIS ON RELATIONS WITH THE PACIFIC STATES AND NO RPT NO INCREASE IN AID FUNDS TO THE SPC. NELSON PLANS TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE IN WELLINGTON.

4. THE FRENCH ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SPC AND RELATIONS BETWEEN FRENCH TERRITORIES AND OTHER ISLAND STATES WAS FORTHCOMING AND CONSTRUCTIVE. FRANCE WAS REPRESENTED BY M. REVOL, A FORMER AMBASSADOR TO THE PHILIPPINES, FROM THE FOREIGN OFFICE RATHER THAN THE LONG TIME DEPARTMENT OF TERRITORIAL AFFAIRS REPRESENTATIVE. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THIS IS A REAL POLICY CHANGE ON THE PART OF FRANCE BUT MANY DELEGATES COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE "CHANGED FRENCH ATTITUDE," AND ADDED THAT THEY WOULD WELCOME CLOSER CONTACTS WITH THE FRENCH TERRITORIES.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 MAY 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** OCON, XP, SPC  
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